795 of the Lithuanian survivors. *Lithuania is still "the most loyal Daughter of Rome in the North of Europe,"* in the words of the late Pope Pius XI.

661 798 The Russians continue their practice of subjecting the Catholic clergy to periodic and systematic "questioning," accompanied by physical torture and threats. Several priests became apostates. Most of the others were killed in torture chambers or exiled to Siberia, while several dozen priests enlisted with the patriotic guerrillas. Retired emiriti priests were called back to duty—as each priest must now serve 3 to 5 parishes.

● 874 661 798 One seminary remained for a few years. The number of divinity students was limited to 150. Professors and students were repeatedly summoned to the MVD-MGB and subjected to "pressure" and tortures in order to enlist them as agent-informers. Seminary rectors and their assistants were arrested and exiled as soon as they assumed duties. Students attended classes in churches. They were shadowed and threatened, and their number steadily dwindled as the MVD exercised more "pressure." By 1947, the number of divinity students dropped to 60. Normally 30 to 40 priests die annually of natural causes, but only 7-8 priests were graduated annually to replace the deceased. Finally, during the winter of 1947-48, the seminary was closed.

798 659 661 The surviving priests (about 400 as of the fall of 1948) could discourse on Scriptural texts in their sermons—always mindful that MVD agents were taking down notes and that suspicious Russians in the MVD-MGB offices would summon them to enlarge on translations of the suspect imputed allegories. Attacks on the Church in the official press, over the radio and at mass meetings cannot be answered or discussed: that would be "propaganda." The Stalin constitution warrants freedom of the anti-religious propaganda and of "religious belief,"—not of religious "propaganda."

Priests are continually exposed to provocation. For instance, MVD agents go to "confession" in order to provoke some remark by the priest. Sometimes a priest is summoned "to give last rites to a dying person." When the priest arrives, the "dying person" impersonated by a provocateur becomes a "guerrilla" ("bandit") and the clergyman is arrested "for association with bandits." Priests are forced to disrobe in MVD offices and to be photographed with MVD "girls." Afterward the photographs are circulated among the people. Nevertheless, the faithful are not easily misled by the alien oppressor whom every Lithuanian despises.

In 1947 there was a large scale massacre of the faithful at Kretinga when someone rang the bells of the Franciscan monastery at the time the Russians came to close it. The running people saw Russian troops bringing out the bleeding bayoneted body of a priest. Infuriated, the Lithuanians attacked the Russians with stones and bats. The Russians fired indiscriminately at the mob. . . .

No religious literature—no catechisms, missals, discourses, etc.—is printed: no paper is allotted by the government—and all printing places are state-operated. No priests are permitted to enter hospitals, schools, barracks and prisons to administer the sacraments. The priests enter gaols only as prisoners.

Since 1947, the Russians attacked the Church from another angle—clamoring against the Vatican and demanding creation of a "national Catholic Church."

701 Mobilization generally failed during the period of hostilities. The majority of men managed to secure themselves in the "armored institutions" exempt from draft, others went into hiding, and a small number reported for duty. Many men in hiding were killed or wounded and exiled during the *"oblavas"* (manhunts and searches).

702 After the war, classes of 1926-1928 were called up for training. Presently, men born in 1929-1931 are in training. The basic training takes place in Lithuania and East Prussia. The trainees wear their own clothing and provide their own food: each week they are drilled 4 days and then are told to proceed home and bring back food supplies for a week. When training is completed, men are dispatched to Russian bases, some are assigned to the 16th Infantry Division stationed in the homeland.

702 There is no officers school for Lithuania specifically. However, in all university and college level schools
● 874 military training is obligatory for men and women throughout the years of schooling, 4-5 hours weekly. Reserve commissions in respective specialties are given upon graduation—Junior Lieutenantcy to Captaincy, depending on the degree of success in passing the examinations of the Military Chair ("Cathedral"). General Karvelis, a former artillery officer of the Lithuanian Army, heads the military "chair" in the University of Vilnius, assisted by Colonel Purelis. General Vincas Vitkauskas, former commander-in-chief of the Lithuanian Army, heads the military chair in the University of Kaunas. Lectures are given in Russian and Lithuanian, depending on the lecturer's ability to speak Lithuanian and the composition of his class. The lecturing personnel is one-half Russian. Orders are given in Russian.

[872] In secondary schools, military training is likewise compulsory for both boys and girls, beginning with the basic first grade.

War Preparations

712 Klaipéda (Memel) is converted into a major submarine and naval base.

723 During the first half of 1948, regular Soviet Army forces (exclusive of the Navy and MVD-MGB units) stationed in Lithuania numbered about 80,000 men of infantry, artillery, aviation, armored and tank units. The artillery is concentrated along the seacoast.

Airfields are continually expanded to accommodate transport craft but the number of planes shifts—the planes refuel and take off. Nevertheless, some "destroyers" (fighter planes), light bombers, reconnaissance and training planes are permanently stationed. Radar installments are in evidence, but do not seem to be alerted. Three "rocket artillery" airfields were constructed at Lisbergylas-Linksmakalnis in Kaunas, at Vilnius, and in Maleikiai county in the northwest. Little is known regarding the closely guarded secret weapons of "Toxin Fog" and "Thermite Artillery." Aviation training schools are in operation at Vilnius and Kaunas, but no Lithuanian students are admitted there.

According to Russian officers, Estonia and Karelia form "Zone A of the Strategic Area of the Northern Front," while Latvia, Lithuania and East Prussia form "Zone B, an auxiliary strategic and supply area for the operational area of Poland."

563 sonal risk: when the Russians arrived, the Jew informed them that a person who had secreted a Jew from the Nazis might most likely secret a "bandit" from the Russians—and the poor farmer was executed and his family exiled.

000 This reasoning seems to be generally adopted by the Russians—and no "heroics" are told them. The Russians show no excitement whatever regarding the massacres perpetrated by the Nazis. They conducted no special investigation or excavations—the Nazi practices too closely parallel those of the Soviets. ..... Only in instances where they were tipped off that people had been executed clothed and unrobbed—did the Russians make excavations in quest for valuables. . . . They gathered up coins, jewelry, pulled gold from teeth, and ceremoniously reburied the skeletons.

Education

● 874 The University of Vilnius with medical and chemistry departments, and the University of Kaunas with
871 departments of medicine, architecture, construction, technology and chemistry, are functioning. Both universities provide compulsory instruction in "Marxism-Leninism Science" and military training. A Veterinarian Academy and the lower classes of the Agricultural Academy function at Kaunas. The Pedagoguic Institute and an Art Institute with classes in scultpure, architecture, graphics and painting are open in Vilnius. The Commercial Institute is at Klaipéda. The upper classes of the Agricultural Academy are still housed in the ruins of Dotnuva.

Eighty percent of the faculty staff and student body are Lithuanians. Deputy Rectors, in charge of "political education," are Russian MVD-men. Most of the aliens are concentrated in Vilnius. The total student body numbers about 6,000 (compared with over 2,000 university students in Western Germany).

Of secondary schools, there are about 90 gymnasia and 189 progymnasia with 65,000 students, and about 20 special schools of agriculture, orchardry, gardening, forestry, cattle breeding, bookkeeping, etc. The secondary schools follow an 8-year program—a recession to the antiquated pre-1914 system. The Russian language is taught from the third grade of grammar school. All textbooks are translations of Russian authors exclusively. Prewar textbooks are withdrawn from circulation and systematically destroyed.

186 In 1944 and 1945, the National Anthem of Lithuania was tolerated as a "national song" over the radio and at some official functions, but was banned from schools. It is still sung in some churches but is no longer heard elsewhere.

876 Since 1946, school programs were systematically
626 purged of all "western bourgeois" influence. In libraries, books of western authors were replaced by propaganda "masterpieces" of Russian literature. The Michurin theory is preached, and professors are compelled to publicly "confess" their former heresy. Every dissertation on any subject must faithfully seek some quotation from Stalin and Lenin "science" to prove the infallibility. Only students whose parents never owned more than 18 hectares of land are admitted to universities—others are "outlaws."

The universities demand that matriculating students submit loyalty certificates issued by local Party offices. The University of Kaunas still adheres to the

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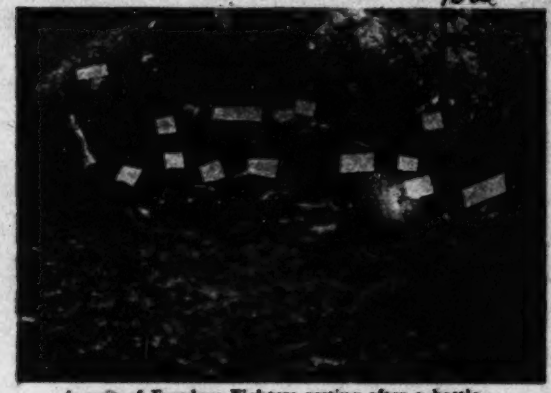

A unit of Freedom Fighters resting after a battle—Taurus Area, Lithuania.

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These practices meant "sabotage of a people's economy" and "insurrection." Reproached and heckled in this manner, some people broke down and could no longer stand the tirades and the violence. They seized their pitchforks, axes and scythes and turned on the hated Muscovites. Countless people were murdered. Ablebodied men fled to the forests.

All this time, the Russians were perfecting their preparations to execute the "Abakumov Order" to purge the Baltic States of all hostile element (see the Nov.-Dec. 1948 issue of the *Lithuanian Bulletin*, pp. 4-5). The indignation and desperation of the farmers offered a very convenient excuse for MVD-MGB troops to descend en masse in November and December 1948 in execution of a previously conceived plan of the Kremlin Politburo. After all, the agitators had very definite instructions: rave for hours—and some people's enemies are likely to betray themselves/. . .

No one knows the manpower losses of the "operation" of the present winter. First reports placed the casualties at 60,000 men, women and children. But the Russians claimed that the "insurrection" was put down only in January 1949, and the "Russian system" entails retaliation against the families and friends of the "people's enemies." This means that the persecution is endless. . . .

However, the crime of genocide perpetrated by the Russians against Catholic Lithuania does not end with simple murder on the ground of a provoked "sabotage" and "insurrection." Genocide takes other forms.

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One of the refined forms of genocide is reported in the Party organ *Tiesa* of 13 December 1948:

"A serial call of the youths to the FGA (Factory Production Training) schools of Vilnius, Kaunas and Klaipėda began on 10 November. The call-up will last until 15 December 1948. One thousand youths will be called to learn mass construction skills. During the years 1945-48 about 14,000 young skilled workers entered industrial and construction concerns from the trades, railroad and FGA schools."

Graduates of such specialized schools may be sent anywhere in the Soviet Union, to "assist the fraternal republics" needing specified skilled labor groups. They have no choice—they must go where they are directed, and there is unlimited demand for skilled labor in the Asiatic "fraternal republics." Their eventual return to their homeland is doubtful.

2:Anonymous U-4 (no date)1947 RB5 Lithuanians RB5

The Situation Of The Church In Enslaved Lithuania

Moscow Boasts

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The Information Bulletin of the Soviet Embassy in Washington (April 30), in its "Notes on Soviet Life," describes the alleged freedom of religion in Lithuania:

> The position of the Roman Catholic Church in Soviet Lithuania was described in a recent statement by the Most Reverend Mgr. Reinis, Catholic Archbishop of Vilnius.
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> "The Catholic Church enjoys perfect freedom in Soviet Lithuania," he told a Tass correspondent. "The local authorities are assisting us in restoring and repairing churches destroyed by the German invaders, and supplying building materials. Our clergy are provided with all necessities.
>
> "There are at present two archbishoprics in Lithuania," Mgr. Reinis went on to explain, "those of Vilnius and Kaunas. The Catholic Church organization has remained unchanged. All 711 churches are functioning with their staffs of 1,332 clergy. The Kaunas Ecclesiastical Seminary, headed by the prominent theologian Ventskus, is graduating scores of young Catholic priests annually. Thousands of believers in Vilnius, Kaunas and other towns and villages gather as usual at Matins and Vespers. All established holidays are observed by the Church."

The Reality

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Before the Russian aggression in 1940, there were 6 dioceses in Lithuania (Archbishoprics of Vilnius and Kaunas, Bishoprics of Kaišiadorys, Panevėžys, Telšiai and Vilkavilkis) and the Klaipėda-Memel Prelacy. Lithuania had three archbishops and seven bishops, including one for the armed forces. There were four theological seminaries (Vilnius, Kaunas, Telšiai and Vilkavilkis) with 350 divinity students. There were Catholic and Protestant Theology-Philosophy Faculties in the Kaunas University, and a goodly number of private denominational high schools and other institutions of learning. A Catholic Academy of Arts and Sciences functioned and a Catholic University was in the process of formation. There were 800 parishes, with about 900 churches and chapels, 1,600 priests, and numerous convents, monasteries and congregations.

000 AND NOW? . . .

The Soviet Bulletin gives the latest statistics: "The Catholic Church organization has remained unchanged . . . 711 churches . . . 1,332 clergy . . . The Kaunas Ecclesiastical Seminary . . . two archbishoprics."

The Soviet Embassy conveniently omits the information regarding the fate of the bishops (of whom only three are probably in the country), the three missing seminaries, 300 priests, and the introduction of *numerus clausus* for divinity students: 150 for a nation of three million. . . The following article by a prominent Catholic layman, a university professor who lived through both Russian occupations and is now a refugee in Germany, will demonstrate bolshevik

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of laymen active in Catholic Action were either murdered or exiled to Siberia. 40,000 Lithuanians were deported to Russia during that one lone year, and at least two-thirds of the number were Catholic Action members.

The Second Russian Occupation

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As far back as 1942, Comrade Vyshynsky, Deputy Commissar of Foreign Affairs and Liquidator of the Democratic Latvian State, admitted to a foreign statesman that bolshevik tactics in the Baltic States were based on an erroneous policy: the method of violence and compulsion had been a mistake.

In July 1944, the Russians again invaded the Baltic States. However, there was no change in their policy or methods regarding religion: they permitted no Catholic organizations, press or instruction of religion in schools.

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The Salesian monastery at Skirsnemunė was encircled by the Red Army and all physically able friars were drafted into the Red Army.

Soon thereafter, the tactics regarding the clergy wavered. Soviet overlords attempted to maintain, to some extent, the propaganda thesis regarding the alleged existence of "freedom of religion" in the Soviet Union. Only one Catholic Seminary, of the former four, was left in Lithuania, but divinity students, as other university students, were exempt from military duty. The number of divinity students was sharply limited to 150—for a Catholic nation of three million —instead of the previous 850.

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This measure represented a lull in the anti-religious drive: religion was to be eliminated by other means, by mass deportations of the faithful and their replacement by Communist Russians, so that, in the words of comrade Pozdniakov, the priests would find no employment for their vocation, no audience to listen to them. By effecting the primary aim of the Soviet regime—the liquidation of the Lithuanian people—the secondary aim, that of abolishing religion, would be simultaneously achieved. This explains the change in tactics, not the basic aim.

Furthermore, the new "party line" sought not merely to leave the clergy untouched, but to use them for political interests of bolshevism, as is done in Russia with the Orthodox clergy. In 1946 the NKVD encountered great difficulty with armed Lithuanian guerrilla operations. The NKVD decided to use the bishops and clergy to break the fighters' will to wage war. The Ministry of Interior (NKVD-MVD) demanded that the bishops publish pastoral letters and in sermons condemn the armed resistance and urge an end to it.

The alien regime attempted to attain two purposes: to enlist the clergy's aid to further its plans, and to drive a wedge between the clergy and the fighting nation. However, the plan was too obviously underlined with "red" threads, and the bishops declined to do the NKVD bidding. When the NKVD threatened with repressions, one bishop frankly told the satraps: "It is all the same to me whether I live five more years or less—I shall not soil the authority of the Church."

Šv.Mažvilionas G-4, 5 (no date)1939 RB5 Lithuanians RB5

872 30, a school with a language of instruction
186 other than Lithuanian may be established.
191 In it Lithuanian is taught as a distinct subject from the second grade onwards, and from the third grade on instruction in environment, history, and geography is given in Lithuanian. In a school with Lithuanian as the medium, children of non-Lithuanian parentage, if their number is not less than 20, are taught their mother tongue as a separate subject.

Certificates Granted

872 At the end of the first and second degrees of
874 study, the pupils are examined and granted the elementary school graduation certificate which, if from the second degree, grants the right to enter, without further examination, the first grade of a secondary school (gymnasium) or a school offering special training for a vocation. Persons who have attended no schools may earn these certificates by passing official examinations embracing the entire course of study.

875 Elementary school teachers are classified as junior, first-degree, second-degree, senior first-degree, and senior second-degree. They are trained in normal schools and pedagogical institutes. Admission to normal schools is accorded those who have completed four grades of a secondary school, and the course extends for 4 years. To the pedagogical institutes only graduates of normal schools or gymnasia are admitted and the duration of studies is 2 years. Each teacher has in charge from 30 to 60 pupils, the average being 55. The average number with which the teacher works in winter is 43, and in summer 30,

5:Masiliūnas G-4, 5 (no date)1939 RB5 Lithuanians RB5

Technical Instruction

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658 Up to the Great War there were no technical schools in Lithuania, and technical instruction was received in the course of apprenticeship. The work of reconstruction after the recovery of independence created a great demand for skilled labor and special arrangements had to be made for systematic vocational training. For this purpose the state began to found technical schools but progress was slow until 1926 when a Department of Technical Education was organized in the Ministry of Education and the network of technical schools began to be systematically developed.

5:Masiliunas G-4, 5 (no date)1939 RB5 Lithuanians RB5

of technical schools began to be systematically developed. Since there was no place in the country where teachers could be trained for handicraft instruction, the state granted a number of scholarships to young people for the study of technical instruction in foreign countries.

The Handicraft Law published in 1929 and the Rules in 1932 definitely established that the technical schools were to be of two types: Secondary and lower with a study period of 4 years in each. At first they did not find any

874 great public favor and often there was a lack of pupils but that initial difficulty has been surmounted and candidates are now plentiful. The schools now have on their registers about 3,000 students of which 24.1 percent are in housekeeping schools for girls and 8.2 percent in commercial schools.

Agricultural schools, all under the Ministry of Agriculture, are intermediate and lower. The four intermediate schools (dairy, cattle-breeding, land-betterment, and forestry) now

5:Maxillimas G-4, 5 (no date)1939 RB5 Lithuanians RB5

●874 in operation admit candidates who possess certificates that they have finished four or six grades of a gymnasium, or a lower agricultural school, and give them from 2 to 3 years of training. The purpose of the lower agricultural schools is to raise the standard of the practical training of farmers and farm-wives. Graduates of elementary schools are automatically admitted for a study period of 2 years. The nine State and eight private schools of this class have an attendance of 1,504 and employ 137 teachers.

871 The government of Lithuania assigns considerable sums for educational purposes. For instance, in 1938 the budget of the Ministry of Education carried the figure of 56,656,891 litas (44,580,045 ordinary, and 12,076,846 extraordinary expenditures), or 16.34 percent of the total National budget.

532 **The Lithuanian sculptor, Petras Rimša, portrays the "Lietuvos Mokykla" (The Lithuanian School).**

532 [517] circle of responsibility: it called into being a theater, an opera, and a music school--institutions which the state took over--and combined within itself all the creative forces of that period which were aiming with great energy and much idealism to create the basis for a new artistic culture within the framework of the new national life.

537 814 In the year 1924 the founding of an art school took place. At its head was the painter Justinas Vienožinskis, who, although he belonged to the older generation, pursued with great freshness the new artistic trends of Western Europe but at the same time directed attention to the values which were lying dormant in the Lithuanian folk art. A painter of colorful culture, himself a product of the impressionism of the previous century, he found a style of his own. Along with him there came as teachers a number of the older artists. In spite of unfavorable material conditions the art school today has well beyond 100 students and has become an independent factor in Lithuanian cultural life. Its director is the well-known art historian and critic Ignas Šlapelis.

532 Adomas Galdikas (born 1893), who began with drawing but found his real field as a painter, also works as a professor at the art school. A thoroughly self-willed artist, he did not remain untouched by the various new trends of European painting, but always followed independent paths. His individuality grows out of his inner ties to Lithuanian folk art. Unusually versatile--along with his landscapes and portraits his opera decorations must also be mentioned--Galdikas underwent a lively artistic development. It is characterized by the Frenchman Waldemar George, who /182/ writes in a monograph dedicated to the artist: "By approaching the archaic expression of religious folk art, Galdikas seeks something other than only an assortment of colored tones and lines. This confrontation with folk art allows him to be con-

1 [Lithuanian Art Association, 1919 -- Ansty]

famous foreign conductors (Couts, Cooper, Dovroven, Malko, Scherchen, Hoesslin, Poulet, etc.) and soloists--the pianists Hofmann, Rubinstein, E. Petri, Ellegard, Orlov, Ginsburg, and the violinists Hubermann, Thibaut, Oistrach, Elmann, and Cimbalist, along with many others may be mentioned. The number of concerts presented ran to 26 in the season 1935-36, to 22 in the following season.

Along with these symphony concerts, the choruses, above all, /190/ became important for the development of musical life. The first successful attempt in this area was the performance of the Mozart Requiem by the chorus of "Šiaulių Sąjunga" (rifle association). After this there began a lively artistic competition. The student chorus of the "Ateitininkai" (Catholic student union) sang the Seven Last Words of Dubois and Verdi's Requiem; the chorus of the Šiaulių Sąjunga soon after sang Handel's Messiah. Spiritual oratorios were produced by the chorus of the garrison church; and the rest of the choruses also, for example the university chorus, did not remain behind. The latter had great success on its tours through the Baltic countries.

874 Of greatest influence on the development of the whole musical life was the state conservatory, whose student count runs today to 220-250, and which has departments of composition, singing, piano, and all other instruments. The teaching staff--about 30-35--is in part also active in the opera and in the radio. From time to time the radio orchestra presents symphony concerts on a larger scale under the direction of native and foreign conductors.

If we want to know what has been accomplished so far in the purely creative field, it must first be remembered that the prerequisites for a modern Lithuanian artistic music, just as those for a Lithuanian artistic literature, were only given toward the end of the last century. The earliest Lithuanian composers, like Kudirka for example, the creator of the Lithuanian hymn, still had no prof-

533 essional musical training. The first composer educated in musical theory was Juozas Naujalis (1869-1934), organist at the cathedral of Kaunas, who was creatively active primarily in the area of church music, and who made a name for himself as the composer of many Catholic masses and symphonic works. He also stood out as a teacher, and founded the conservatory in Kaunas, at which he was active until 1928 as director and professor of organ-playing. Many of his songs were taken over by the people and are sung today as genuine folk songs. At about the same /191/ time lived Česlovas Sasnauskas (186?-1916), professor of music at the seminary for priests in St. Petersburg, of whom a large requiem and a number of smaller creations became known. Many of his choral songs became quite popular.

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Nevertheless, these beginnings of Lithuanian artistic music still bear more or less provincial features, and also sometimes are strongly under Polish influence. The first to point out new paths to Lithuanian music was Mykolas Konstantinas Čiurlionis (1875-1911), whose singular artistic personality exhibited a synthesis of the pictorial and the musical. Long years of study at the conservatories of Warsaw and Leipzig gave him a broader artistic outlook than to all the others mentioned so far. Thus he went far ahead of his time, and his compositions are still fresh and alive today. With Čiurlionis Lithuanian music got out from its former seclusion, and for the first time strong Western influences made themselves felt beside the formerly dominant Eastern elements. Among the more important works of this composer are the two great symphonic creations--the symphony Miškas (The Forest), still dating from the Warsaw period, and the later Jūra (The Sea)--musical paintings of great beauty, and, in spite of various foreign influences (R. Strauss, Reger), independent in their richness of musical ideas and their colorful

11:League of Nations G-4 (no date) 1939 RB5 Lithuanians RB5

VII. EDUCATION — GENERAL, AGRICULTURAL AND HOUSECRAFT

872 Compulsory elementary education was gradually introduced between 1928 and 1931.

At present, elementary schools are divided into two grades. The first grade, which consists of four standards, is compulsory for children from 7 to 13 years of age. The second grade, consisting of two standards, is intended for children between the ages of 14 and 15 who have passed through the first grade; attendance is not as yet compulsory.

(In the Klaipéda territory attendance for six years at an elementary school is obligatory.)

To meet the needs of peasants on isolated farms, schools consist, as a rule, of only one or two class-rooms; those in the chief towns have from four to six rooms. The network of schools is organised in such a way that no child ever has to go more than 4 kilometres to get to school.

[875] The teachers are trained at the training colleges and at the Pedagogic Institute. Qualified students of the training colleges may proceed to higher educational establishments (the university). The Pedagogic Institute has a two-years course for students who have completed the grammar school or training college curriculum. The teachers are officials, paid by the State. The municipalities provide them lodging, heating and lighting or a cash equivalent.

The progress in elementary education since before the war is illustrated by the increase in the number of schools and of pupils. In 1913, there were 875 elementary schools in Lithuania, with 51,221 pupils; in 1919, there were 1,036 schools, with 45,540 pupils, and in 1938, 2,319 schools, with 283,773 pupils and 5,110 teachers. During the early years of Lithuanian independence, when the Government set about organising education on lines in keeping with the national aspirations, there was a shortage of qualified teachers and of school-buildings. In 1913, out of the 875 elementary schools in existence in the territory which now constitutes Lithuania, only 360 had their own premises, and some of these buildings were destroyed during the war.

874 Adult education is provided by the people's universities and by evening classes held at the elementary schools.

212 There is a steady decline in the number of illiterate persons in rural districts, and there are practically no illiterate young people.

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Agricultural education and agricultural domestic education may be subdivided as follows : 874

(1) Higher education : (*a*) The Agricultural Academy at Dotnuva, with three sections : husbandry, agricultural domestic economy and forestry; (*b*) The Veterinary Academy;

(2) Middle-grade education : special agricultural middle-grade schools;

(3) Elementary education : agricultural elementary schools (mixed schools, agricultural domestic economy schools for girls), agricultural winter schools;

(4) Other forms of educational activity : young farmers' clubs, courses and lectures for adults, Press propaganda.

The Agricultural Academy at Dotnuva trains teachers qualifying for posts in agricultural schools, directors of agricultural experimental stations and experts for the Central Administration and external services of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Chamber of Agriculture.

The middle-grade schools provide technical staff for agriculture : zootechnicians (one school), dairy experts (one school), surveyors and agricultural improvement experts (one school), forestry experts (one school); horticulturists are trained at an elementary school of horticulture.

The aim of the agricultural elementary schools is to turn out efficient farmers and housewives. They accept boys and girls of 15 or over, who must have completed the elementary school course (four standards). The agricultural course lasts two years. The theoretical instruction given in the school is supplemented by practical work in the laboratories and on the attached farms. Girls work in the kitchen, laundry, cowsheds, etc. At present, there are ten agricultural elementary schools (nine mixed and one for boys only), and eight private agricultural domestic economy schools for girls, subsidised by the Ministry of Agriculture. During the school year 1937/38, the number of pupils in these agricultural elementary schools was 1,129 (516 boys and 613 girls), the figure for agricultural domestic economy schools being 375.

Agricultural winter schools are organised for young farmers who are already running a farm or intend to do so when they have completed their training. The teaching covers the rudiments of agriculture. It lasts from November 1st to April 1st, when work in the fields is suspended. Those applying must be not less than 17 years of age and be able to read and write. In 1937, there were twenty winter agricultural schools — *i.e.*,

11:League of Nations G-4 (no date) 1939 RB5 Lithuanians RB5

874 fourteen run by the Chamber of Agriculture and six by private persons in receipt of grants from the Chamber. From 1928 to 1937 — the first schools of this kind having been established in 1927 — 2,471 male and female students attended these winter schools, which have become centres for the propagation of agricultural knowledge. They are provided with small agricultural libraries and a supply of agricultural machinery and tools. They also give advice and instruction to farmers, etc.

From 1924 to 1933, agricultural classes were organised at the elementary schools (first by the Ministry of Agriculture, and after 1928 by the Chamber of Agriculture). The instruction was given in premises belonging to the schools, in the afternoons during the winter months, the classes being attended, not only by young people, but also by adult farmers. The teaching was in the hands of elementary-school teachers who had followed special agricultural courses. The 1,175 agricultural classes held during this period were attended by 10,281 persons.

874 In 1930, the first young farmers' clubs were organised on the lines of the American " 4-H Clubs ", with the object of 883 encouraging a liking for agriculture among young people, teaching them how to apply agricultural science on their farms, imbuing them with a desire to work and to co-operate with each other, encouraging thrift, and exalting a love of their fellow citizens, their native land and liberty.

By a law of 1936, these young farmers' clubs were formed into a Union, under the patronage of the President of the Republic. They keep in close touch with the Chamber of Agriculture and are assisted by the latter's agricultural experts. Close relations are also maintained with the Ministry of Education. The clubs generally meet at the elementary schools, and most of them are run by the teachers. They receive financial assistance from the Government and from private organisations, particularly the co-operatives.

Boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 20 are admitted as members of these clubs. They are given various jobs to do — looking after poultry or pigs, growing vegetables, planting and attending to fruit-trees, etc. When the work is completed, the clubs organise exhibitions of the products, and prizes are awarded. Various competitions are also organised — for the best plantations of trees, small gardens, flowers, housewifery, cleanliness, etc.

In winter, the members attend agricultural and domestic economy courses, do manual work, etc. The clubs organise entertainments and excursions. Of recent years, they have paid more attention to physical culture and sport. They have small libraries.

At present, there are 1,087 of these clubs, with a membership of 36,020 (20,406 boys and 15,614 girls).

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The popularisation of agriculture by means of adult courses and lectures plays an important part in the scheme of agricultural and domestic education. Until 1927, the courses and lectures were organised and subsidised by the Ministry of Agriculture; since that date, they have been taken over by the Chamber of Agriculture. Between 1928 and 1937, the Chamber organised 19,459 lectures on various agricultural questions in 12,824 towns and villages, attended by 379,700 agriculturists; 1,117 lectures on various agricultural questions, organised for farmers' sons serving with the forces, were attended by 170,000 men. Between 1928 and 1937, 4,198 courses, lasting from three to six days and attended by 853,600 agriculturists, were given by agricultural experts, doctors, veterinary surgeons, forestry experts, etc. A large number of courses are organised on the feeding and care of live-stock, milking, flax-scotching and the secondary branches of agriculture (poultry-keeping, bee-keeping, horticulture).

Altogether, approximately one and a-half million agriculturists have passed through the agricultural schools up to date or attended courses or lectures. Out of the 300,000 farms, there is not one from which several inmates have not gone to an agricultural school or attended courses or lectures. In addition, agricultural lectures are broadcast regularly.

Since 1928, the Chamber of Agriculture has organised lectures and domestic economy courses for farmers' wives and peasant girls, given for the most part by the agricultural domestic economy advisers attached to the Chamber. There are general and special courses. The former last either from one to three months or from two to three weeks. The following subjects are included : preparation of food, housewifery, laundry, hygiene and the care of children. The courses lasting from one to three months also include sewing, manual work, horticulture, bee-keeping, poultry-keeping, care of live-stock, co-operation, etc. At the special courses (from three to fifteen days), instruction is given in one of these subjects, according to the time of year and local circumstances. No charge is made for the courses, which are held at the farms or in the elementary schools. Between 1928 and 1937, upwards of 75,000 farmers' wives and peasant girls attended housewifery courses. Lectures on household management are also broadcast from time to time.

The Chamber of Agriculture organises domestic economy exhibitions and excursions to enable farmers' wives to visit model farms, interesting undertakings, etc.

The agricultural Press plays an important part in popularising agriculture. The Chamber of Commerce issues a weekly review, *Ūkininko Patarėjas* (*The Peasant's Adviser*), with two supplements : *Jaunasis Ūkininkas* (the organ of the Union of Young Farmers' Clubs) and *Šeimininkė* (for farmers' wives).

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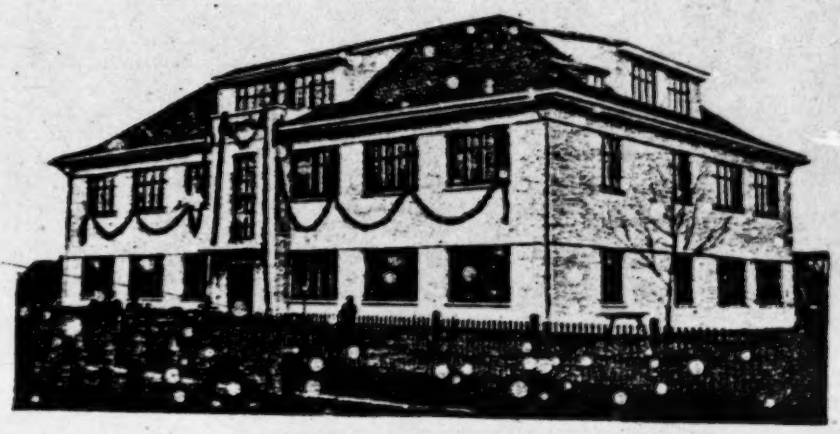
[204] 874 This review has a circulation of about 80,000. There are also three weekly reviews for agriculturists : *Lietuvos Ūkininkas*, *Ūkininkas* and *Mūsų Laikraštis*, all with a large circulation.

Lastly, agricultural experts and other technicians in the service of the Chamber of Agriculture give farmers and their wives advice and practical instruction in all branches of agriculture and agricultural domestic economy (including the care of children).



Primary school at Kvėdarna.